RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL AND GRID RELIABILITY CONFLICTS ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I am proud that the Energy & Commerce Committee has been able to come up with another bipartisan piece of legislation that addresses a significant problem. I thank Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member WAXMAN, as well as my good friends Mr. GREEN and Mr. DOYLE. The work they and their staffs put into this bill is admirable.

To quote Charles Dickens' Oliver Twist, "the law is an ass." Current law makes no sense by forcing a utility to comply with one federal agency and then be fined by another for complying. The bill before us eliminates this contradiction and will provide certainty to utilities that might need to operate under an order in the future. I believe the compromise negotiated will allow environmental protections to stay in place while ensuring the Department of Energy has the tools it needs in order to respond quickly to true emergencies.

Of the few emergency orders that have been issued under the Federal Power Act, most have been short term propositions. If an emergency order violates an environmental law, the negotiated compromise will allow the Department of Energy to react to an emergency situation and quickly issue a 90 day order which is longer than most of the orders that have been implemented. Should the emergency last longer than 90, the Department is required to consult with the appropriate Federal agency of the violated environmental law. The appropriate agency will submit its recommendations on how to tailor the extended order to minimize violations adverse environmental impacts. The Department of Energy may exclude recommendations it believes will interfere with implementation of the emergency order.

I believe this is a good piece of compromise legislation that solves an unnecessary contradiction in current law. I urge all my colleagues to support the Olson bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASIAN COMMUNITY CENTER OF SACRAMENTO VALLEY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Asian Community Center of Sacramento Valley (ACC) as they celebrate their 25th anniversary. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the hardworking staff, volunteers and supporters of the ACC who have ensured that this fine organization has continued to provide valuable senior health and social services to Sacramento's seniors.

Originally established as the Asian Nursing Home in 1987, the Asian Community Center offers a wide array of culturally sensitive services and programs dedicated to improving the lives of Sacramento's seniors and their families. Today, the ACC Nursing Home continues to provide 24—hour, long-term health and nursing care to vulnerable seniors.

Recognizing the growing need to provide more culturally sensitive services to senior citizens in Sacramento, the Asian Nursing Home changed its name to the Asian Community Center and established its Park City activities center. Through Park City, the ACC is able to provide more than 150 classes each month in a variety of subjects including wellness, computer literacy, physical activity and art.

Located at Park City, the ACC Respite program provides daily care to older adults with disabilities and impairments, and gives them the opportunity to participate in activities specific to frail adults, and those with Alzheimer's Disease, dementia or Parkinson's. In many cases, the ACC Respite program provides a valued service to the families of disabled and impaired adults, and gives them an opportunity to fulfill daily tasks, run errands and attend appointments.

Additionally, in light of state and local budget cuts in 2010, the ACC then took over the operation of Sacramento's Meals on Wheels program. The ACC created a separate non-profit and accepted responsibility for the program as local service providers were faced with shutting down the program. Today, Meals on Wheels by ACC serves meals to 5,660 home bound seniors and older adults each week, and recently served its one millionth meal!

Lastly, the Asian Community Center has been instrumental in the creation of the Bridge to Healthy Families program, which seeks to build strong support systems for the families caring for elders suffering from Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Through its many programs and services to seniors citizens and their families, the ACC has become an anchor in Sacramento.

Mr. Speaker I am honored to recognize and celebrate the outstanding service of the Asian Community Center of Sacramento Valley on its 25th Anniversary. The Asian Community Center's success is owed in large part to its executive director, Donna Yee, its board of directors, staff, volunteers, and the countless supporters who keep it running each day. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring their valuable contributions to the community and honoring their continued tradition of supporting Sacramento's seniors and vulnerable citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 537, 538, and 539.

I was unavoidably detained in Georgia due to a scheduling issue, and could not return to Washington in time to cast my vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 537, and "yea" on rollcall No. 538, and 539.

CONGRATULATING ALI BERNARD

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Ali Bernard for being named to the U.S. Olympic Team, and having the opportunity to compete in London this summer. This is an unbelievable accomplishment, and a testament to American dedication and talent.

Ali has been an incredible competitor in wrestling since high school. From the Junior Nationals to the Pan American Games to the World Championships, it has all led up to becoming a two-time Olympian. Ali's achievement is an inspiration and a source of pride for the New Ulm community, and I am proud to represent such an outstanding individual.

I look forward to watching Ali represent our country in London. I wish her and all the members of Team USA the best of luck in the 2012 Olympic Games.

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE LEMAY—AMERICA'S CAR MUSEUM

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize The LeMay—America's Car Museum, located in Tacoma, Washington for opening its doors to the Pacific Northwest this summer. The LeMay Museum is one of the largest automobile museums in the world and will attract people of all ages with its modern look and unique history.

The museum, named after Harold LeMay, honors one of the most accomplished businessman from Tacoma, Washington. Harold was born in Yakima, Washington in 1919, but grew up in the Pierce County area where he pursued his love for motorized vehicles. As a young entrepreneur, he became associated with an automobile business in the Lincoln District of Tacoma. From there, he built Harold LeMay Enterprises, joined dozens of community organizations, and began his impressive automobile collection.

Harold and his wife, Nancy LeMay, owned one of the largest privately-owned collections of automobiles, motorcycles, trucks, and other motorized vehicles in the world. The LeMays formed the Harold E. LeMay Museum, a charitable organization that would donate their automobile collection to benefit the community Harold adored. In November 2003, just a few years after Harold's passing, the museum's board of directors approved the proposal to open The LeMay—America's Car Museum in the City of Tacoma.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate The LeMay—America's Car Museum. The museum showcases the history behind America's admiration for automobiles and Harold's inspiring story.